

TESTING OF DECKS AND BULKHEADS OF TRAWLERS.

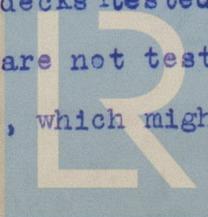
In reporting a new trawler "ST. DONATS" recently built by Messrs. Cook Welton & Gemmell in the Hull district the First Entry Report stated "Decks and bulkheads not tested".

The Surveyors were requested to state why this was so, and also to forward a plan of the vessel as built.

In reply, Mr. Gibbs, the Principal Surveyor at Hull, states that the decks and bulkheads were not tested as it had not been the practice. He adds, however, that while the testing of the bulkheads is a requirement of the revised Rules, in accordance with the Secretary's letter of the 23rd April, 1923 (Circular No. 1400) the previous practice had been adhered to. In this Circular the Committee agreed that as trawlers were essentially different from ordinary sea-going vessels to which the revised Rules are in the main intended to apply, that the practice followed before their adoption might be adhered to pending the framing of amended regulations.

In 1896 it was agreed to by the General Committee that the requirements of the Society's Rules as regards the testing of decks and bulkheads might be dispensed with in the case of trawlers, and it is evidently from this decision of the Committee that the present practice has arisen.

In regard to bulkhead testing an examination has been made of trawlers built in the Hull and other districts for some years back to ascertain the actual practice, and there is no report of bulkheads having been tested. In regard to deck testing the cases of vessels built in the Hull district since 1920 have been examined, and it is found that two thirds of the vessels built at that port are reported to have had the decks tested, and the remainder do not definitely state they are not tested, the point being covered by the word "trawler", which might indicate that



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these have not been tested.

Odd examples taken from other ports would indicate about the same proportion.

It is considered advisable that the decks and bulkheads of trawlers should be tested, and as so many of the vessels built at Hull have had the decks tested (as already mentioned) it is thought Mr. Gibbs should be asked what difficulties prevent this being done in all cases.

In regard to bulkheads there may be exceptions taken to this point, and until the Revised Rules come into operation it is considered some latitude might be allowed. It would be well, however, in cases where Builders raise no objection to testing the bulkheads and decks, for this to be done.

Mr. Gibbs should be informed that it was noted that the plans forwarded by him showed alternative dimensions of framing, and that the same had not been corrected to represent the vessel as built; with the revised form of First Entry Report it is highly desirable that only plans which have been corrected in all details should be returned to this Office on completion of the vessel. He should therefore be requested to forward a plan of this vessel as built, or the original plans amended to correspond.

*hfg*

*26.9.24*

*to Gibbs  
Thank this sub: is  
altogether wrong.  
in this part what was  
submitted in the  
the want to people  
some time ago*



*no need to test  
unless at owners  
request*

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